

WASHINGTON, DC – Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey released the following statement on the House passage of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act:

“In December, the House passed a fully paid for, significant jobs bill that:

- Extended unemployment insurance;
- Helped people who had lost their jobs continue to get health care through COBRA;
- Invested in highway infrastructure and transit projects to create and save good paying jobs;
- Provided funding for communities to address their growing backlog of water and sewer repairs and put people to work in the process;
- Supported job training in high growth sectors; and
- Retained and created jobs for teachers, police officers and firefighters.

It’s ridiculous that it’s taken so long for the Senate to overcome indifference and obstruction to finally send a bill back to the House which represents just a fraction of what we need to do to help the unemployed. But better late than never, and better something than nothing.” ###